Introduction of Unconventional Teaching approach by Indira Gandhi National Open University

2873. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indira Gandhi National Open University has devised a new instructional system of long distance learning which is unconventional with multi-media approach, self-instructional point material, video and audio programmes and counselling sessions; if so, what are the full details thereof;

(b) what is the total expenditure incurred by the Indira Gandhi National Open University so far and the number of persons, specially graduates and unemployed who have been benefited since its inception, indicating the fees collected from the students; and

(c) whether any indepth evaluation/assessment has been made of this University and if so, with what results?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) The Indira Gandhi National Open University has adopted a multi-media instructional strategy for imparting education. This involves use of specially designed printed texts supplemented by audio and video material. Each student is attached to a Study Centre of the University near his place of residence. These Study Centres provide facilities for viewing listening of video/audio programmes. The study Centres also arrange facilities for counselling, advising and guiding students through part-time Counsellors/ Tutors.

(b) The total expenditure incurred by IGNOU and total income from the students up to 1988-89 year-wise are as follows:—

Expenditure

Year	Rs. in lakhs
1985-86	290.61
1986-87	307.72
1987-88	798.87
1988-89	1260.47
TOTAL	2657.67

Fee income from students

Year	Rs. in lakhs
1985-86	..
1986-87	18.66
1987-88	29.50
1988-89	149.66
TOTAL	197.82

The total enrolment in the courses offered by the University at present is slightly over 53,000 out of which 22,093 are employed. More than 50 per cent of the students enrolled have offered Bachelor's Degree programmes in Arts/Commerce.

(c) As the academic programmes of the University commenced only in January, 1987, it is too early to undertake any indepth evaluation/assessment of the work of the University.

Assurance from Pakistan on Peaceful uses of Uranium Enrichment Facilities

2874. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have obtained any adequate assurance from